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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MINORU KUSAKABE et al.

Application No.: 09/671,623

Filed: September 28, 2000

For: IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND METHOD,
AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Examiner: M. Nguyen

Group Art Unit: 2626

September 3, 2004

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9-14-03

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents and English-language abstracts therefor are enclosed.

Each of the listed foreign patent documents was cited in an Office Action issued March 22, 2004, in corresponding Japanese Application No. 11-279984. A copy of the Office Action is also enclosed. Applicants also point out that three documents cited in the Japanese Office Action, namely, JPA 10-304176, JPA 5-130376, and JPA 2-266390, are not listed on the Form PTO-1449, inasmuch as those documents were cited in previously filed

Information Disclosure Statements. U.S. Patent Nos. 6,002,841 and 5,568,570 are believed to correspond to JPA 9-051425 and JPA 8-211857, respectively.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed subsequent to the mailing of a first Action on the merits, no fee is believed due in connection with this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment necessitated by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Didas", is written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022011		APPLICATION NO. 09/671,623	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		APPLICANTS MINORU KUSAKABE et al.			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE September 28, 2000		GROUP 2626	
Submitted to the PTO: September 3, 2004					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,568,570	10/1996	Rabbani	382 238
		6,002,841	12/1999	Tanioka	395 109
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS SUBCLASS TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		8-211857	08/1996	JP	ABSTRACT
		9-051425	02/1997	JP	ABSTRACT
		11-069133	03/1999	JP	ABSTRACT
		2000-287062	10/2000	JP	ABSTRACT
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Sheet 1 of 1

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